

► Defendamos a Roe vs Wade de la forma que podamos: en Huelga, Sentadas, Ausentándonos, Clausurando 8

► Federación de Mujeres se solidariza con la lucha de Puerto Rico por la independencia 8

Struggle-La-Lucha.org

Vol. 5, No. 9 • May 9, 2022

Suggested donation: \$1

Socialist Unity Party
Partido de Socialismo Unido

Twitter: @StruggleLaLucha

Facebook.com/strugglelalucha

email: info@struggle-la-lucha.org

STRUGGLE★LA LUCHA

for Socialism / por el Socialismo



Defend Roe v. Wade: ☒ STRIKE ☒ WALK OUT ☒ SICK OUT ☒ SIT DOWN ☒ SHUT IT DOWN!

Socialist Unity Party Statement

A leaked draft opinion outlines plans for the Supreme Court majority to strike down the historic 1973 Roe v. Wade decision which guaranteed federal constitutional protections of abortion rights and the 1992 Planned Parenthood v. Casey decision that maintained these rights. Here is a link to the draft majority opinion: tinyurl.com/fxnkpccd.

Women in Struggle/Mujeres en Lucha and the Socialist Unity Party/Partido de Socialismo Unido assert that it is time to take to the streets and resist the imminent, deeply reactionary Supreme Court decision that paves the way for a surge of attacks by the far right, including the neo-fascist elements responsible for the failed January 6, 2021, coup.

Reversing Roe v. Wade seeks to turn the clock back to the time when women – especially Black, Brown and poor women – were forced to seek back-alley abortions.

This decision is an attack on the rights of all genders, including transgender people and the LGBTQ2S movement. If affirmed, the arguments the draft opinion is based on would also undermine many other hard-won rights, including same-sex marriage, and be used to further the ongoing assault on trans people.

This attack is also deeply connected to the white supremacist attacks on voting rights for Black and Brown people and the attempts to stop workers from unionizing.

In the final analysis, the crushing of reproductive rights will fall disproportionately on women of color and poor women, as well as trans men, non-binary and gender non-conforming people who also need the right to abortion. It will also impact transgender and LGBTQ2S people by cutting their access to medical care. The very wealthy have always found a way to access abortions and other care.

Mainstream Democratic and Republican politicians have done almost nothing to stop the right wing in its tracks and to defend women's rights. The attack has been clearly coming for years – yet the Biden White House, with a Democratic majority in Congress, did nothing to prepare.

In the blink of an eye, Biden and Congress are preparing to turn over another \$33 billion to escalate the U.S./NATO proxy war on Russia and Donbass. But they remain powerless to stop the storm threatening



SLL PHOTO: GREG BUTTERFIELD

Thousands in New York protest Supreme Court attack on abortion rights, May 3.

millions of women, oppressed-gendered people and the working class in general.

What is needed to stop this storm is a massive mobilization in the streets, independent of the capitalist parties. This mobilization must hurt the real power behind the right-wing threat – the big banks and capitalist bosses.

We propose building a one-day strike, sick-out, walk-out and sit-down that will be costly for those in power. Our power as workers, as students, as members of the community, can transcend the reactionary Supreme Court and the for-profit, anti-women, anti-trans, anti-people, anti-working-class policies.

When business as usual stops – they will reverse themselves!



John Parker

LUGANSK MEDIA CENTER

Socialist Senate candidate on fact-finding trip to Russia, Donbass 5, 6

MAY DAY 2022



Los Angeles 5



Moscow 5



In solidarity with workers of the Oakland Educators Association and ILWU Local 10, the Oakland community mobilized to show our power and strength against privatization and school closures, and shut down the Port of Oakland!

APRIL 29, 2022
WE SHUT DOWN THE PORT OF OAKLAND! 4

AROC



New York 4



Havana 4

Elon Musk, super pig

By Stephen Millies

The U.S. Supreme Court wants to abolish reproductive rights and return to the days of coat hangers. Elon Musk — the world’s richest man — wants to turn back the clock for all poor and working people.

The 12,000 employees at Musk’s Tesla plant in Fremont, California, work 12-hour days in a racist, sexist, homophobic and transphobic hellhole. Black workers refer to it as the “plantation.”

They’re called “monkeys” by supervisors. Foremen sexually harass women workers. Those that complain often get fired.

Musk advised workers who were discriminated against to “be thick-skinned and accept [an] apology.” Black employees were often assigned to the worst part of the factory.

Tesla’s management allows graffiti including swastikas, the n-word and “KKK” to remain on walls for days. You can be sure that if any worker wrote “union” on a wall, it would be immediately taken down.

The Fremont plant was a former GM-Toyota joint venture that closed in 2004. The workers were represented by the United Auto Workers.

Elon Musk hates unions and uses dirty tricks to keep the UAW out.

The National Labor Relations Board cited Musk for threatening workers with the loss of their benefits if they voted for a union.

Racist workers are allowed to flaunt their confederate flag tattoos. This is what Musk means when he says he wants to restore “free speech” to Twitter.

Rocket boy Elon took over the social media platform with \$44 billion in largely borrowed money. Larry Ellison, the Trump-loving former CEO of Oracle software, kicked in a billion.

Boston-based Fidelity Investments provided \$316 million. This



Tesla workers protest mass firing at Fremont plant in 2017.

may not seem much compared to its \$4.5 trillion in assets under management, but it’s politically significant.

Fidelity is 49% owned by Abigail Johnson and her family, all of whom are Mayflower descendants. It shows that New England’s “old money” is just as bigoted as newer capitalists in Trump’s circle.

Why not? Johnson’s ancestors — the Pilgrims — conducted genocidal wars against the Wampanoags and other Indigenous nations to steal their land.

Elon Musk’s Boer ancestors stole African land. The Bantustans in apartheid South Africa were modeled on Indian reservations in the United States.

‘We can coup whoever we want!’

Last year, Time magazine named Elon Musk as its “man of the year.” In 1938 Time gave the award to Adolf Hitler. He sent union supporters to concentration camps.

Musk hasn’t been able to do that yet. In the meantime, he supports the neo-Nazis in Ukraine fighting against the people of Donbass and their Russian allies.

Musk was thrilled with the 2019 coup in Bolivia that overthrew a democratic, Indigenous-led government. He tweeted, “We will coup

whoever we want! Deal with it.”

The Bolivarian people dealt with the coup plotters a year later when they restored the Movement Toward Socialism government. Not incidentally, the Plurinational State of Bolivia has some of the largest reserves of lithium in the world, which is vital for the batteries in Musk’s electric cars.

Virtually all the capitalist media fawns over Musk, who has been anointed a humanitarian for providing satellite services to the Kiev regime.

According to commentator Yasha Levin, most of this was actually subsidized by the U.S. government. Musk is a big military contractor, with the Pentagon being a sugar daddy for Musk’s Space-X rocket company.

Musk’s biological daddy is a millionaire who owned an African emerald mine. He made his fortune because of the apartheid system that enslaved Black people.

Bringing back 12-hour work day

Two hundred years ago British textile employees worked 12-hour days. Elon Musk wants to make that the working standard today.

It took the labor movement over 50 years to win an eight-hour work day and a two-day weekend for most

U.S. workers. The Haymarket martyrs — labor leaders George Engel, Adolph Fischer, Albert Parsons and August Spies — were hanged in 1887 for demanding an eight-hour work day.

It was to abolish an 84-hour work week that 365,000 steel workers went on strike in 1919. Employees at the now-closed Sparrows Point steel mill outside Baltimore worked 12 hours every day except July 4th and Christmas.

Strikers, led by future communist leader William Z. Foster, shut down most of the steel industry. The entire capitalist class and

its newspapers united to smash the strike. Today, almost all of the corporate media want you to support a war against Russia.

Cops beat up strikers while U.S. Army troops were sent to Gary, Indiana, to defeat the strike. After months of these assaults the strike was called off in January 1920.

Yet this struggle was not in vain. Hatred towards the 12-hour work day deepened. By 1923, U.S. Steel — then the world’s largest corporation — threw in the towel and instituted an eight-hour work day. (“Steelworkers in America, the Nonunion Era,” by David Brody.)

Almost a century later, Elon Musk sends rockets into outer space and wants to go to Mars. Meanwhile, this pig with his \$200 billion stash makes 12,000 Tesla employees in Fremont work a 72-hour week.

That’s six days of 12-hour days. Tesla workers often work weeks straight without a day off.

These horrible conditions libel the memory of the Serbian electrical genius Nikola Tesla. He had at one time been a member of the Socialist Labor Party in the United States.

These conditions will also impel Tesla workers to struggle. Henry Ford was forced to sign a union contract. So will Elon Musk. 🐷

New York rally declares: Jerusalem is Palestine!



New York City, April 29.

PHOTO: AL AWDA

By Stephen Millies

The chant “Palestine will be free from the river to the sea!” was heard by thousands of people in New York City on April 29. Manhattan’s Herald Square was filled with protestors who were outraged at Israel’s attacks on worshippers at the Al-Aqsa mosque during the holy month of Ramadan.

At least 150 worshippers were injured by Israeli cops on April 15 with rubber bullets and other weapons. Israeli troops and settlers have murdered dozens of Palestinians on the occupied West Bank this year.

The Al-Aqsa mosque is located in Jerusalem, which in Arabic is called Quds. The Iranian Revolution established Al-Quds Day on the last Friday of Ramadan to rally people worldwide to defend the capital of Palestine.

This year Al-Quds Day fell on April 29. That day people rallied in Detroit, Johannesburg, Lagos, Paris, Tehran

and more than 50 other cities.

In New York City, Marya Abbas of the Muslim Congress and Nerdeen Kiswani of Within Our Lifetime co-chaired a rally that featured many speakers.

They included Dr. Raza Moosvi of the Muslim Congress and Kawthar Abdullah of the Yemeni Alliance, who described the suffering the U.S.-armed Saudi military has inflicted on Yemen. A young boy, Taqi Abbas Abidi, gave a beautiful and melodious recitation from the Quran.

It was pointed out that the U.S. government has given over \$140 billion to the apartheid regime occupying Palestine. A rabbi denounced the racism of Zionism.

Lamis Deek of Al-Awda NY, the Palestine Right to Return Coalition, spoke of the upcoming Rising to Return conference planned for May 6-8

Continued on page 3

DOLLAR DOMINOES

Will U.S. seizure of Russian assets end dollar's domination as global currency?

By Gary Wilson

On Feb. 26, the U.S. blocked Russia's access to over \$300 billion in foreign reserves held in banks in the U.S., the European Union and Japan. This was part of the sanctions U.S. President Joe Biden announced as part of the U.S./NATO proxy war against Russia.

China did not freeze Russian assets. China's banking regulator said it would not participate in sanctions against Russia, adding that the sanctions "have no legal grounds."

Another way to put it is that the U.S. taking \$300 billion in Russian assets is illegal – a robbery.

Russia responded with counter-sanctions, requiring all payments from "unfriendly countries" in rubles. The list of "unfriendlies" includes all G7 and EU nations, as well as Ukraine. Since assets in the form of dollars or euros might be seized by the U.S., requiring payment in rubles is reasonable.

What are foreign reserves?

Foreign reserves are a government's holdings of gold, foreign treasury bills and foreign currency — dollars, euros, pounds, yen and yuan. Although a country can hold foreign reserves in its own banks, governments often choose to keep their reserves overseas to avoid costly cross-border transactions and gain direct access to foreign markets.

U.S. President Joe Biden has imposed severe sanctions on Russia, including the freezing of Russia's foreign reserves. The impact of this U.S. economic and financial warfare is expected to raise the prices of oil, industrial metals, natural gas, fertilizer and food.

CNBC reported April 6: "A fertilizer shortage, worsened by war in



In Kabul, Afghanistan, people lined up outside a bank to take out cash in October 2021, two months after the U.S. seized the Bank of Afghanistan's \$9.5 billion in dollar reserves.

Ukraine, is driving up global food prices and scarcity." The shortage is not because of any military activity; it's because of the sanctions. Sanctions are not an alternative to warfare, as some might claim. Sanctions are economic warfare.

Hidden for now is the potential impact the seizure of foreign assets will have on the dollar-dominated international monetary system.

The U.S. world empire consists of a series of institutions – military, financial, trade and political. These institutions, whose roles have evolved over the years, include NATO, the World Trade Organization, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and even the U.S.-dominated United Nations Security Council. Plus, importantly, the U.S. dollar-centered international monetary system.

The world's reserve currency

The U.S. dollar was designated as the world's reserve currency by the Bretton Woods Agreement in 1944. The world's central banks all operate on the dollar standard, holding their international monetary reserves in the form of U.S. Treasury bills, U.S. bank deposits and U.S. stocks and bonds.

More than a century ago, central banks had kept their reserves in the form of gold and silver. By the beginning of the 20th century, central banks started to hold some of their reserves in treasury bills of other countries, which enabled central banks to earn interest on their re-

serves, something they couldn't do with gold bars.

However, both gold bars and treasury bills can be stolen, as fictionally dramatized in the James Bond "Goldfinger" story.

Venezuela's central bank had about \$2 billion "safely" deposited in the Bank of England, which was "frozen" (stolen) by the U.S./NATO imperialists as part of the economic and financial war (sanctions) against Caracas.

Turns out, central banks aren't neutral or safe havens.

U.S./NATO defeat in Afghanistan

The war on Afghanistan was a U.S./NATO operation. The U.S. had 100,000 troops at 800 military bases in Afghanistan. In addition, under U.S. command, an additional 130,000 troops from other NATO countries were stationed at 400 NATO bases in Afghanistan.

The war was a major defeat of the imperialist forces. When the U.S./NATO withdrew from Afghanistan in August 2021, the U.S. government froze \$9.5 billion in dollar reserves of the Bank of Afghanistan. This threw the economy of Afghanistan into a deep crisis, devastating the whole population.

The U.S./NATO war had already driven the country into total poverty. In July 2020, before the Taliban returned to power in Kabul, the Ministry of Economy in Afghanistan had said that 90% of the people in the country lived below the international poverty line of \$2 a day.

The freezing of Afghanistan's dollar reserves, according to the U.N. Development Program, "means only 5% of the population has enough to eat, while the number of those facing acute hunger is now estimated to have ... reached a record 23 million. Almost 14 million children are likely to face crisis or emergency levels of food insecurity this winter, with 3.5 million children under the age of five expected to suffer from acute malnutrition, and 1 million children risk dying from hunger and low temperatures."

Freezing bigger dollar assets

Until now, most assumed Washington's freezing of monetary reserves held in U.S. Treasury bills or other dollar-denominated assets was confined to small countries like Venezuela or Afghanistan.

If other countries, like the People's Republic of China, fear their central bank reserves might be frozen by the U.S./NATO imperialists, won't they shift their reserves to gold?

The U.S. dollar domination of the world economy is already in decline. Will this lead to not just decline but destabilization?

As researchers working for the Wall Street bank Goldman Sachs cautioned: "The move by the U.S. and its allies to freeze Russia's central bank out of much of its foreign currency reserves has raised concerns that countries could start moving away from using the dollar, due to worries about the power the currency grants the U.S." 📖

Jerusalem is Palestine!

Continued from page 2

at the Peoples Forum in New York City.

Bill Dores of Struggle-La Lucha newspaper and the Socialist Unity Party / Partido de Socialismo Unido pointed out that Washington funds and arms the Zionist occupation regime in Palestine at the expense of working-class communities here. He called on workers and oppressed people in the U.S. to stand in solidarity with the people of Palestine.

Among the organizations sponsoring the event was MuslimCongress.org; Al-Awda NY, the Palestine Right to Return Coalition; Jafria Association of North America; Within Our Lifetime-United For Palestine; United National Antiwar Coalition; Muslims for Progress; Samidoun: Palestinian Prisoner Solidarity Network; BDSapp.org; Muslims United for Justice; Muslim Girl; Yemeni Alliance Committee NY; Socialist Unity Party; Workers World Party; International Action Center; and CAIR NJ. Free Palestine! 📖

Hear Clarence Thomas speak about his anthology 'Mobilizing in Our Own Name, Million Worker March'

❖ @ The People's Forum Wed., **MAY 11** | 6:30 p.m. ~ 8:30 p.m. | 320 W. 37th St. (btw. 8th & 9th Aves.) NY, NY 10018

❖ @ IBT Local 282 | Sat., **MAY 14** | 10 a.m. ~ 1 p.m. | 2500 Marcus Ave., Lake Success, NY 11042

❖ @TWU Local 100 | Sat., **MAY 21** | 12 p.m. ~ 4 p.m. | 195 Montague St., 9th Floor, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Purchase 'Mobilizing in Our Own Name' and have it signed by Clarence Thomas. tinyurl.com/54drzhmx

Three days in May to fight imperialist

By Greg Butterfield

This May, as U.S. imperialism wages a criminal proxy war against Russia on the territory of Ukraine and the Donbass republics, the workers' movement should take steps toward organizing to defeat imperialist war and fascism. Three days of fight-back give us an opportunity to begin that urgent work.

May 1 is International Workers' Day, commemorating the 1886 Haymarket protest and deadly police repression in Chicago. The day of international working-class solidarity is celebrated around the world. In the United States, anti-communism and anti-Sovietism nearly wiped out May Day for decades, until it was revitalized by the struggle of undocumented immigrant workers in the early 2000s.

May 2 marks the anniversary of another massacre: in Odessa, Ukraine, in 2014, carried out by U.S.-backed neo-Nazis. At least 48 anti-fascist protesters were killed when supporters of the illegal Maidan coup set fire to the House of Trade Unions and slaughtered those who tried to escape the burning building. This massacre isn't yet well known in the U.S. but should be, since it illuminates the ugly reality behind Washington's "Stand with Ukraine" war propaganda.

May 9, meanwhile, is recognized in the former Soviet countries and much of the world as Victory Day – marking the final defeat of Nazi Germany in 1945. It's no surprise that this day isn't celebrated in the U.S., since it challenges the well-cultivated myth that the U.S. was the lynchpin in the defeat of the Third Reich. But in reality, the USSR and its par-

tisan allies across Europe defeated German imperialism – at the cost of 30 million civilian and military lives and the destruction of much of the socialist country's infrastructure.

In the Donbass people's republics of Donetsk and Lugansk, in Russia, and until eight years ago in Ukraine itself, the period from May 1 through 9 is an important holiday time when people remember those who sacrificed so much to defeat the 20th century fascist menace.

Since 2014, it has gained new meaning in Donbass, as people also honor those family members and neighbors who've died defending the republics from Ukraine's NATO-armed military – including the neo-Nazi battalions that form the backbone of the current Ukrainian state.

This May 1-2, it's been announced that Odessa will be under day-long curfews to prevent any expression of working-class struggle or opposition to the Zelensky/NATO regime. Ukrainian President Zelensky

recently appointed the leader of the fascist Aidar Battalion as governor of the Odessa region.

Victory Day commemorations have been banned in Ukraine since 2014. Elders who have taken to the streets in defiance of the Ukrainian regime to mark Victory Day have been arrested by police and beaten by neo-Nazis.

War on workers

President Joe Biden has requested a \$33-billion addition to the U.S. war budget to pump even more weapons into Ukraine to counter the Special Military Operation of the Donbass re-

The struggle against imperialist war and white supremacy is global.

Pictured: Brooklyn protest after the police murder of George Floyd, June 1, 2020; Victory Day 2016 in Lugansk.

SLL PHOTOS: GREG BUTTERFIELD



publics, Ukraine's anti-fascist underground and the Russian Federation. The aim of the Special Military Operation is to denazify and disarm the NATO-controlled Ukrainian regime.

Given the eagerness of Democrats and Republicans alike to support the U.S. proxy war, there's little doubt Biden's request will be granted – if not more.

Along with the military-industrial complex, U.S. Big Oil and Big Banks will profit handsomely. A key motivation for launching a major European conflict was to cut off the supply of Russian fuel to Washington's

Continued on page 5

Oakland teachers, dockworkers fight for community

By Lallan Schoenstein

On April 29, thousands of teachers, students and parents from Schools and Labor Against Privatization (SLAP) rallied at Oscar Grant Plaza next to City Hall in Oakland, California, then marched to the Port of Oakland where they held a picket line that shut the port down.

The innovative joint labor action was an historic day in the campaign led by SLAP, union teachers of the Oakland Education Association (OEA) and International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) Local 10, against racist gentrification in Oakland.

Local 10 honored the picket line with a stop-work action in solidarity with the teachers and community to fight the privatization and destruction of the port and Oakland's public school system engineered by billionaire John Fisher.

Fisher is an heir to The Gap fortune, a real-estate developer and owner of the Oakland A's baseball team. He also owns a charter school and acts as a national spokesperson for school privatization under the guise of charter schools.

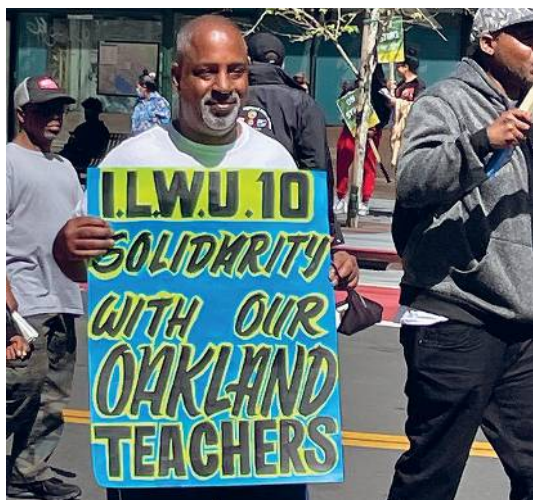


PHOTO: ILWU LOCAL 10

Oakland longshore worker on April 29.

One-day strike

Oakland educators called a one-day unfair labor practice strike on April 29 after the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) failed to follow its 2019 agreement with OEA to engage with families when considering closing schools.

Despite widespread outcry from families, including legal action filed by the ACLU of Northern California on behalf of the Justice for Oakland Students Coalition, 11 schools are scheduled to close by the end of next year – three this year and eight the following year.

OUSD has a history of closing schools in predominantly Black and Brown communities. In the past 15 years, OUSD has closed 16 majority-Black schools, upending communities and pushing more than 18,000 Black students out of the district since 1996.

"Let's be clear – educators don't want to strike, but we are because OUSD has forced us to fight to protect the schools our Black and Brown students deserve," said union President Keith Brown. "Rather than putting their resources towards unilaterally closing schools, OUSD should be acting as a respected governing body of learning and walking the walk to support the future of Oakland's families."

Widespread opposition

Preceding the one-day strike, trade unionists from OEA, ILWU Local 10, Service Employees Local 1021, and Steel Workers Local 5 held a joint press conference next to the Howard Terminal in the Port of Oakland to voice opposition to Fisher's plan to privatize the terminal and build a new stadium, a sky-box hotel and 3,000 luxury condos.

Other organizations engaged in building a united labor and com-

munity front against privatization in the Bay Area include ILWU Local 6, International Federation of Professional and Technical Engineers Local 21, University Professional & Technical Employees, and the All City Council student union.

Billionaire Fisher's stadium privatization deal and a giveaway of \$850 million in taxpayer money for the project is supported by Mayor Libby Schaaf, the Oakland City Council and the Alameda Labor Council, led by the conservative Alameda Building Trades.

Opposition to Fisher's gentrification scheme won ground on March 16 when the Seaport Planning Advisory Committee, in a 5-4 vote, recommended that the 55-acre Howard Terminal property be used only for Port of Oakland activities, not as the site of a 35,000-seat ballpark surrounded by 3,000 housing units, offices, retail, hotel rooms and parks.

Angela Davis spoke at this year's San Francisco May Day rally as an honorary member of ILWU Local 10. Davis denounced Fisher's stadium gentrification as a project which would destroy the working Port of Oakland and part of the privatization of public areas. She joined the ILWU contingent at the head of the march. ■

war and fascism

Continued from page 4

Western European allies, to ensure their money flows into U.S. coffers.

But the war drive is a disaster for working-class and oppressed people. While Washington pours a fortune into war, sacrificing the lives of Ukrainian and Donbass workers for Wall Street's gain, people here are left holding the bag in the aftermath of the devastating pandemic.

Rents are skyrocketing and evictions alongside them. Inflation is slamming the lives of workers from the grocery store to the gas pump. Biden and the Democratic-controlled Congress have reneged on every promise they made to their voter base: protecting the right to organize, stopping police brutality, defending reproductive rights, LGBTQ2S rights and Black voters' rights, canceling student debt, action to stop climate change, and on and on.

An even more devastating economic crisis looms. On April 28, it was announced that the U.S. economy shrank and the Gross Domestic Product fell 1.4%, the first contraction since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Censorship and hate-crime propaganda have soared to new heights. The Biden administration and Big Tech have methodically censored workers' access to factual information and alternative views on the conflict in Ukraine. Washington is setting up a "Disinformation Governance Board" under the Department of Homeland Security to deepen the war censorship.

At the same time, the recently announced buyout of Twitter by super-rich bigot Elon Musk with the backing of big banks indicates that, in tandem with the war censorship, the weak curbs introduced on social media fascists after Jan. 6, 2020, will be removed, giving white supremacists free reign to escalate their divide-and-conquer attacks that fuel violence against people of color, trans people and other oppressed sections of the working class.

Unite the working class

"During a reactionary war a revolutionary class cannot but desire the defeat of its government," wrote Marxist leader V.I. Lenin in 1915. "This is axiomatic, and disputed only by conscious partisans or helpless satellites of the social-chauvinists. The opponents of the defeat slogan are simply afraid of themselves when they refuse to recognize the very obvious fact of the inseparable link between revolutionary agitation against the government and helping bring about its defeat."

Unfortunately, in 2022, many of the socialist, communist and other organizations that claim to represent the working class have forgotten this critical lesson. Many anti-war and left groups have bent to the intense pressure of imperialist propaganda and thrown their support behind the U.S. proxy war directly or indirectly. Others are keeping their heads down, afraid to take to the streets or go to the working class to refute Washington's war lies.

But there are signs of hope. Of particular significance are the powerful union-organizing drives at

Socialist Senate candidate attends Moscow May Day

Struggle-La Lucha writer John Parker, Socialist Unity Party candidate for U.S. Senate in California on the Peace and Freedom Party ticket, is on a fact-finding trip to uncover the truth about the U.S./NATO proxy war on Donbass and Russia.

By Union of Communist Youth

Moscow – Today, May 1, on the Day of International Solidarity of Workers, communist and left-wing organizations of the capital held a solemn event.



LEFT: PHOTO: OLGA IVANOVA
RIGHT: UNION OF COMMUNIST YOUTH

Amazon and Starbucks, fueled by young workers, Black and Brown workers, women and queer workers, including the ground-breaking victory of the Amazon Labor Union in Staten Island, New York. In Oakland, California, teachers and longshore workers united to shut down the city's schools and ports April 29 to fight racist gentrification. Grassroots movements are fighting tooth-and-nail to defend trans youth and people who need abortions from repressive laws in Texas, Florida and other Republican-dominated states.

Despite the grim conditions facing our class, we must remind ourselves that it has been less than two years since the George Floyd uprising against racist police terror shook the ruling class with the biggest movement for social change in the country's history. Today's right-wing offensive from the top is a reaction to that powerful struggle.

We know that millions of people can and will fight back. The job of the revolutionary left is to connect the dots of the many struggles, to help the workers overcome the divide-and-conquer politics of the capitalists by building solidarity with the most oppressed, and to show how the bosses' war against workers here and U.S. wars around the world are one and the same.

Workers and oppressed peoples of the world unite – to defeat imperialist war and fascism! 🇺🇸

In this difficult time it is more important than ever to show international solidarity, because no matter what conflicts and wars go on now or in the future, it is worth remembering that there are only two classes, and this is the largest world conflict, which so far does not even think of ending – the confrontation between the bourgeoisie and the proletariat.

Our modest event was attended by a guest from the United States – John Parker, a public figure and social activist with great experience, coordinator of the Harriet Tubman Center for Social Justice in Los Angeles, who formerly worked with Angela Davis, was a labor organizer and a former coordinator of the International Action Center. He currently writes for Struggle for Socialism-La Lucha por el Socialismo.

Source: Union of Communist Youth – Moscow City Branch

Struggle-La Lucha's John Parker attends May Day rally in Moscow, May 1, 2022.



Los Angeles on May Day: Workers gear up to fight back



SLL PHOTOS: SCOTT SCHEFFER

By Scott Scheffer

Thousands participated in a beautiful, multinational May Day commemoration in downtown Los Angeles on May 1.

Beginning with a rally at the corner of Broadway and Olympic, unionists, immigrant rights fighters, socialists, environmentalists and activists fighting racist police brutality took every lane of one of the busiest thoroughfares on their northbound route to Grand Park.

The march was initiated by the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights (CHIRLA) and numerous L.A. trade unions. The signs and banners, consistent with the tradition of

this international holiday, called out the important issues in the global working-class struggle.

After long decades of suppression, it was a resurgence of the immigrant rights movement that fueled a mega-march on May 1, 2006, and brought May Day to the attention of hundreds of thousands of people once again. Though interrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic, the size and breadth of this year's march shows that was not an aberration.

Workers and oppressed people are geared up for a fightback to recoup all that was lost or delayed by the billionaires who have exploited and elongated the deadly pandemic. 🇺🇸



To honor Odessa anti-fascists, stop weapons to Ukraine!

By John Parker

Statement given at a memorial in Moscow for victims of the 2014 Odessa Massacre on May 2.

Now more than ever, we must raise the reality of the nature of the Ukrainian government, to alert our class to the danger of U.S.-led NATO expansion, the greatest danger to humanity today.

The massacre at the Odessa House of Trade Unions on May 2, 2014, was a war crime by proxy, with Nazi and other fascist gangsters following the script written for them by U.S. imperialism before 2014.

But instead of being tried in the International Criminal Court – because they were doing the bidding of U.S. and European imperialists – they received the de facto immunity for war crimes enjoyed by all U.S. forces committing murder and genocide spread across the globe.

Instead of being tried in Ukraine, the Nazi forces were emboldened by the fact that the evil that was done was rewarded with the jailing of the anti-fascist victims of the terror.

Following President Petrenko before him, President Zelensky not only rewarded the perpetrators by not charging them, he appointed a



On May 2, John Parker joined Ukrainian political exiles and allies gathered in Moscow to remember the victims of the 2014 Odessa Massacre.



SLL PHOTO



PHOTO: COMMUNIST DAWN

fascist as governor of Odessa to put salt in the wound.

That refusal to act in the name of justice and that most unjust appointment of a Nazi sealed the historical designation of Zelensky as not only a traitor to the working class but also a traitor to Jewish people around the world.

Is this the person, is this the regime of serial killers, that deserves the sophisticated weapons of mass destruction the U.S. has been sending to Ukraine?

People should not dismiss Zelensky's suggestion that he should now be allowed to accept nuclear weapons in Ukraine. No one should underesti-

mate U.S. imperialism's willingness to commit any murder, genocide or war crime. The over 200,000 civilians killed in Nagasaki and Hiroshima by atomic bombs, used even on children, makes that clear.

The best way to honor the martyrs, the anti-fascists and courageous comrades who were willing to risk their lives to defeat the fascists, who risked their lives to protect humanity from that scourge, is to ensure that the fascist movement in Ukraine receive no more weapons, money or political support from the imperialist powers, who hypocritically talk about imaginary war crimes while excusing the elephant in the room with blood on its tusks.

How can we do this? By raising and highlighting the events on May 2, 2014, so every individual in the working class in every imperialist country knows what their governments did in enabling the rise of fascism in Ukraine.

In various U.S. cities, our comrades are holding picket lines and vigils to honor this anniversary.

We must speak louder than the corporate media – we can and we shall. They may have the propaganda apparatus, but we have the people, whose potential, if organized, could easily overwhelm them.

We have the truth – whose containment is not sustainable – and most important, like our comrades who died knowing they were on the right side of history, we have the moral fiber, integrity and love for humanity that resists fire, resists bullets and keeps coming back until every last vestige of fascism is finally thrown into the dustbin of history. [\[U\]](#)

Instead of fighting COVID, U.S. spent money to support neo-Nazis in Ukraine



PHOTO: LUGANSK INFORMATION CENTER

John Parker (center) receives award from Chairman of the Government of the Lugansk People's Republic Sergey Kozlov (right), May 5.

By Lugansk Information Center

Lugansk, May 5 — The United States spent the money allocated to fight COVID-19 to support neo-nazis in Ukraine, said John Parker, coordinator of the Harriet Tubman Center for Social Justice and one of the leaders of the U.S. Socialist Unity Party, during a meeting with the Chairman of the Government of the Lugansk People's Republic Sergey Kozlov.

"Now we can clearly see what the U.S. government is doing in Ukraine and Donbass. The money that was intended to fight the pandemic, which is about \$16 billion, they spent on supporting neo-nazis who are killing children," he said.

The political leader noted that many Americans do not know that the United States is promoting the ideas of fascism in Ukraine.

Earlier, the Chairman of the Government of the LPR presented Parker with an honorary badge "For Good Deeds."

Source: Lugansk Information Center

East Coast office
2011 N. Charles St.,
Baltimore, MD 21218
Phone: 410.218.4835

West Coast office
5278 W. Pico Blvd.,
Los Angeles, CA 90019
Phone: 323.306.6240

PARTIDO DE SOCIALISMO UNIDO **SOCIALIST UNITY PARTY**
Struggle-La-Lucha

Donate to help print this paper. Join us in the struggle:

www.struggle-la-lucha.org/donate

info@struggle-la-lucha.org

[@StruggleLaLucha](https://twitter.com/StruggleLaLucha)

[Facebook.com/StruggleLaLucha](https://facebook.com/StruggleLaLucha)



Climate crisis rages as U.S. pushes war for energy profits

By Scott Scheffer

For a brief period last summer, even as the COVID-19 pandemic dominated the headlines, climate change news burst to the forefront.

There were wildfires in several western U.S. states, where record-breaking droughts dried up the water system. There were floods in China, Central Europe and India, where 1,300 people died. A Pacific Northwest heat wave took the lives of more than 1,000 people in the normally temperate and humid region.

Considered the most extreme heat wave in world history, it shocked climatologists and was a basis for the reassessment of climate change timelines.

All of this was happening as President Joe Biden's proposed "Build Back Better" legislation, which included funds for action on climate change, was being crushed in Congress. The legislation was already not enough – but still too much for the powerful energy industry and giant banks to allow.

The defeat left the White House without a plan of action to bring to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow last October.

The humiliation and consequent surrender by Biden revealed the weakness of the executive branch of the capitalist U.S. government when it is forced to confront the power of the ruling class, and in particular, giant energy corporations and banks.

Washington prioritizes war

Because of the resources ostensibly at the fingertips of the U.S. empire, capitalist media throughout the world interpret the role of the U.S. as primary in the global effort to fight climate change. This is false hope. The U.S. military is itself the worst single entity that emits CO2 in the world and has evolved into nothing less than a brutal police force for the U.S. energy industry in its efforts to control the world's oil, natural gas and coal.

The energy industry is a powerful section of the capitalist class and garners huge and growing investment by the giant banks. Instead of aiding the replacement of fossil fuels with wind and solar, or pushing reforestation on a massive scale, the major oil companies are now investing in ventures that by design can enable their continued drilling and fracking of oil and natural gas.

They can't lead this fight. A leopard doesn't change its spots.

Nonetheless, and understandably, during the leadup to the Glasgow conference, tens of millions of people throughout the world were hoping the White House would take charge and work to alleviate the menacing climate crisis.

Despite the U.S. delegation attending the conference with obvious empty promises instead of a list of actions already funded and soon to be underway, the conference stiffened some of the goals set at previous conferences. All agreed on preventing the global rise in temperature since the industrial revolu-

tion from topping 1.5 degrees, reaching "carbon neutrality" by 2050, and mobilizing financing for the global south for mitigation and adaptation.

Since the conference, the White House's failed climate proposals are all but forgotten. The media is focused now on the conflict in Ukraine – a crisis created by Washington that threatens the world with nuclear war, as U.S. imperialism maneuvers to increase its domination of oil, gas and energy pathways.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has issued strident warnings that not enough progress has been made in the five months since COP26 and humanity is not on pace in the fight to save the planet. The funding promised to the global south has not come to pass.

Without the blazing headlines over climate change nagging Biden, the White House has now made a u-turn. To alleviate the consequences of Biden and NATO's campaign against Russia and Donbass, he greenlit the auction of 1.7 million acres in the Gulf of Mexico to oil giants Exxon, Shell, Chevron and others, in a realization of right-wing Sara Palin's cry to "drill, baby, drill."

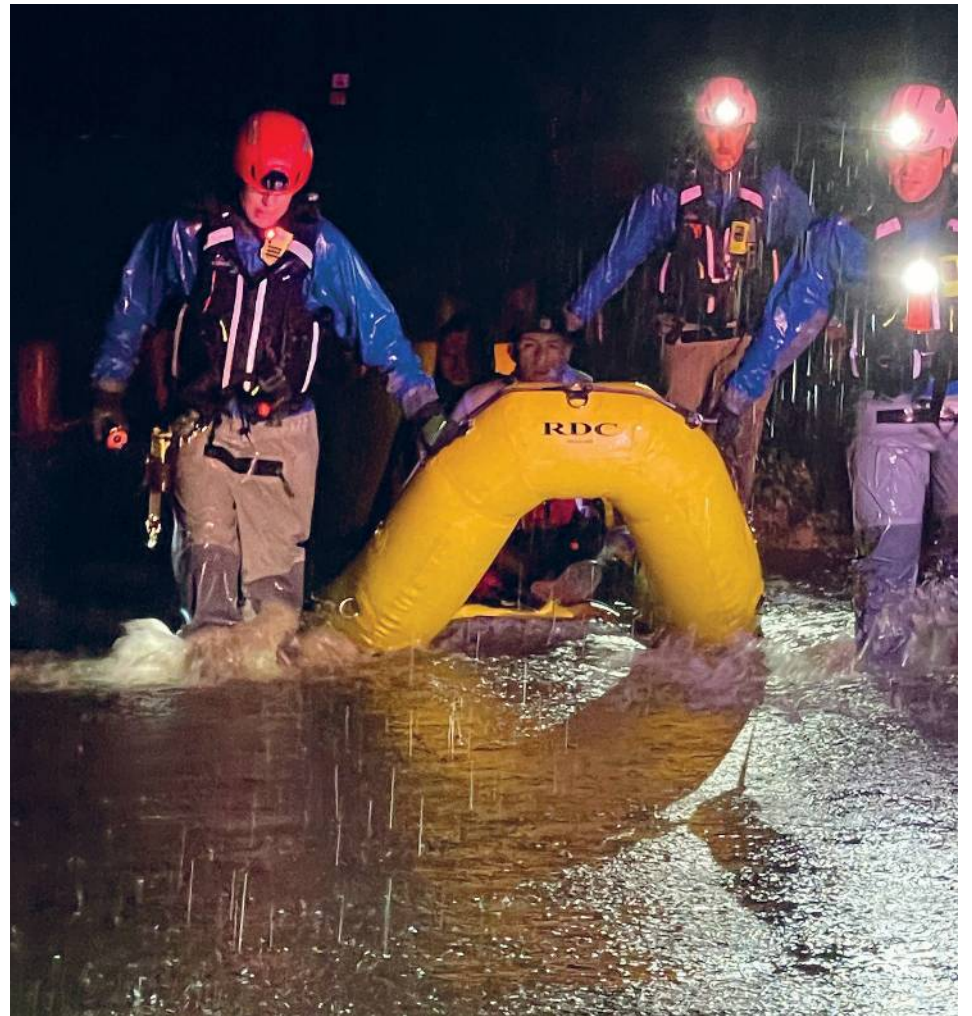
The people pay the price

But there's no need to hear from the IPCC, or to do a deep dive through mainstream media, to know that the crisis is ongoing. Hundreds of thousands of people are experiencing the consequences firsthand.

An April 5 Newsweek headline reported, "Texas Flash Flooding Sweeps Cars Away as Roads Turn Into Rivers."

Firefighters in drought-stricken Flagstaff, Arizona, have finally made headway in battling a 19,000-acre fire that was within miles of the city.

In Durban, South Africa, families are mourning more than 400 victims and cleaning up after devastating floods swept away homes of many of the poorest South Africans.



In early April, a rescue crew in McKinney, Texas, helped motorists whose cars were swept away in flash floods.

As if the people of Iraq haven't endured enough at the hands of U.S. imperialism, after wars and sanctions that killed millions, a report by the European Union's Institute for Security Studies says that Baghdad could be uninhabitable by 2040. The number of 120-degree days will increase from 14 per year not long ago to 40 per year by then.

Awareness of the impending threat is as old as the problem itself. The pioneer of climate science was a remarkable scientist and women's rights fighter – Eunice Newton Foote, who studied and wrote about the dangers of greenhouse gasses. Her work had to be introduced to other scientists by a male colleague in 1856. But the science was isolated and largely ignored for nearly a century.

Now there are hundreds of thousands of expert climatologists throughout the world. Engineers are constantly pushing innovations that should be invested in, developed and employed. All of this science and every resource needs to be freed from the influence of the capitalist class.

Though every criminal U.S. energy corporation today claims to be "green," it's never been more clear that the fight against climate change must be severed from their grasp to turn the situation around. The needed momentum won't come from any occupant of the White House – Democrat or Republican. The only real power capable of saving our planet is in the independent mobilization of the people. [📌](#)

Philippines community rallies to demand fair elections

PHOTO: MICHELLE LORENTZEN



By Andre Powell

On April 23, nearly 200 members of the Philippines community from up and down the east coast came to

Washington, D.C., to demand clean and fair elections from U.S.-backed dictator Rodrigo Duterte. They held a spirited rally at Dupont Circle, then marched to the Philippine Embas-

sy. The voting in the Philippines will take place on May 9. Many Filipino overseas voters placed their absentee ballots in the box set aside for voting on the embassy grounds. [📌](#)

Federación de Mujeres se solidariza con la lucha de Puerto Rico por la independencia

Por **FDIM/WIDF**

Resolución sobre Puerto Rico aprobada ahora en el XVII Congreso de la Federación Democrática Internacional de Mujeres (FDIM/WIDF) en Caracas, Venezuela

Mujeres en Lucha-Women in Struggle declara que hasta que las hermanas boricuas no vivan en un país libre, las mujeres en los Estados Unidos no gozarán de una plena libertad.

Las mujeres en Puerto Rico se encuentran bajo el yugo colonial impuesto por los Estados Unidos desde su invasión en el 1898, por lo que sus luchas y sus victorias en contra de la opresión del patriarcado se ven limitadas por la naturaleza de un estado colonial fallido que al no ser soberano, obedece a un poder imperial

y hegemónico que no reconoce los derechos de la mujer ni siquiera en sus 50 estados.

Solo bajo la independencia se podrá avanzar hacia una sociedad con un sistema más justo que reconozca el valor y los derechos de la mujer.

El movimiento que lucha por la independencia del archipiélago puertorriqueño necesita urgentemente de la solidaridad internacional.

Y respondiendo a este llamado, el XVII Congreso de la FDIM, reunido en Caracas desde el 24-28 de abril de 2022 resuelve enviar un saludo solidario al movimiento por la libertad de Puerto Rico y sus organizaciones; y en la medida posible, exigirán a las Embajadas y/o consulados estadounidenses en sus respectivos países la independencia inmediata con indemnización para Puerto Rico.

En Caracas, el 27 de abril de 2022. 📌



Caracas, Venezuela: Berta Joubert-Ceci (izquierda) de Struggle-La Lucha con una compañera del Partido Comunista de Colombia en el XVII Congreso de la Federación Democrática Internacional de Mujeres.

SLL FOTO

Women's Federation declares solidarity with Puerto Rico's fight for independence

By **FDIM/WIDF**

Resolution on Puerto Rico passed at the XVII Congress of the Women's International Democratic Federation (FDIM/WIDF) in Caracas, Venezuela

Mujeres en Lucha-Women in Struggle declares that until the Boricua sisters live in a free country, women in the United States will not enjoy full freedom.

Women in Puerto Rico have been under the colonial yoke imposed by the United States since its invasion in 1898, so their struggles and victories against the oppression of the patriarchy are limited by the nature of a failed colonial state that, not being sovereign, obeys an imperial and hegemonic power that does not recognize women's rights even in their 50 states.

Only under independence can we advance towards a society with a fairer system that recognizes the values and rights of women.

The movement that fights for the independence of the Puerto Rican archipelago urgently needs international solidarity.

And in response to this call, the XVII Congress of the FDIM, gathered

in Caracas from April 24-28, 2022, resolves to send a solidarity greeting to the movement for the freedom of Puerto Rico and its organizations; and to the extent possible, they will demand of the U.S. Embassies and/or Consulates in their respective countries immediate independence with compensation for Puerto Rico.

Caracas, April 27, 2022. 📌

Defendamos a Roe vs Wade de la forma que podamos: en Huelga, Sentadas, Ausentándonos, Clausurando

Por **Partido del Socialismo Unido**

Un borrador de opinión filtrado describe los planes para que la mayoría de la Corte Suprema anule la histórica decisión Roe vs Wade del 1973 que garantizaba las protecciones constitucionales federales del derecho al aborto y la decisión Planned Parenthood vs Casey de 1992 que mantuvo estos derechos. Aquí hay un enlace al proyecto de opinión de la mayoría.

Mujeres en Lucha / Women in Struggle y el Partido de Socialismo Unido / Socialist Unity Party afirman que es hora de tomar las calles y resistir la inminente y profundamente reaccionaria decisión de la Corte Suprema que allana el camino para una oleada de ataques de la extrema derecha, incluidos los elementos neofascistas responsables del golpe fallido del 6 de enero de 2021.

Revertir Roe vs Wade busca hacer retroceder el reloj a la época en que las mujeres, especialmente las mujeres negras, latinas y pobres, se vieron obligadas a buscar abortos clandestinos.

Esta decisión es un ataque a los derechos de todos los géneros, incluidas las personas transgénero y el movimiento LGBTQ2S. Si se afirma, los argumentos en los que se basa el proyecto de opinión también so-



SLL FOTO: GREG BUTTERFIELD

Miles en Nueva York protestan contra el ataque de la Corte Suprema contra el derecho al aborto, 3 de mayo.

cavarían muchos otros derechos a la intimidación ganados con tanto esfuerzo, incluido el matrimonio entre personas del mismo sexo, y se utilizarían para promover el ataque continuo contra las personas trans.

Este ataque también está profundamente relacionado con los ataques de la supremacía blanca contra el derecho al voto de las personas negras y latinas y los intentos de impedir que los trabajadores se sindicalicen.

En el análisis final, la derogación de los derechos reproductivos re-

caerá de manera desproporcionada sobre las mujeres de color y las mujeres pobres, así como sobre los hombres trans, las personas no binarias y de género no conforme que también necesitan el derecho al aborto. También afectará a las personas transgénero y LGBTQ2S al reducir su acceso a la atención médica. Las muy ricas siempre han encontrado una manera de acceder a abortos y a otros cuidados.

Los principales políticos demócratas y republicanos no han hecho casi nada para detener a la derecha y defender los derechos de las mujeres. Claramente, el ataque ha estado ocurriendo durante años; sin embargo, la Casa Blanca de Biden, con una mayoría demócrata en el Congreso, no hizo nada para prepararse.

En un abrir y cerrar de ojos, Biden y el Congreso se están preparando para entregar otros \$33 mil millones de dólares para intensificar la guerra subsidiaria de EUA/OTAN contra Rusia y el Donbass. Pero siguen siendo

incapaces de detener la tormenta que amenaza a millones de mujeres, personas de género oprimido y la clase trabajadora en general.

Lo que se necesita para detener esta tormenta es una movilización masiva en las calles, independiente de los partidos capitalistas. Esta movilización debe afectar el poder real detrás de la amenaza de la derecha: los grandes bancos y los patronos capitalistas.

Proponemos hacer una huelga de un día, faltar al trabajo por enfermedad, salirse del lugar de trabajo y hacer una sentada que sería costoso para quienes están en el poder. Nuestro poder como trabajadoras y trabajadores, como estudiantes y como miembros de la comunidad, puede trascender la Corte Suprema reaccionaria y las políticas lucrativas, antimujer, antitrans, antipueblo y antiobreros.

Cuando los negocios como de costumbre se detengan, ¡tendrán que revertir su plan! 📌



Vol. 5, No. 9 May 9, 2022

Vol. 5, Núm. 9 9 de mayo de 2022